

Free State Firebirds Update

Let's Go State!



Updates from the Firebirds Athletic Department



Boys Basketball Congratulations!

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2021 Hays City Shootout | Tournament Champions

Lawrence Free State 65 – Great Bend 32

Lawrence Free State 75 – Hay-TMP 23

Lawrence Free State 45 – Hays 41, OT

2021 Hays City Shootout All-Tournament Team

Senior Mozae Downing, Senior Cooper Jackson, Junior Jailen Thompson

Boys Basketball Congratulations!

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2021 Hays City Shootout | Tournament Champions



Girls Basketball!

The Lady Firebirds kicked-off their season at Pembroke Hill on Saturday!



Boys Swim & Dive Congratulations!

— — —

vs. Lawrence, Leavenworth, SM South | 2nd Place

200 Yard Medley | Alexander Moore, Max Bates, Dawson Bonnell, Jackson Waggoner – 2nd Place

200 Yard Medley | Levi Bates, Asher Zelry, Jacob Heinz, Jamie King – 4th Place

200 Yard Free | Sina Khosh – 3rd Place

200 Yard IM | Dawson Bonnell – 2nd Place

1 Meter Diving | Elliot Ahlvers – 1st Place, Michael Leonard – 3rd Place

1 Meter Diving | Isaiah Wilkins – 4th Place, Jackson Waggoner – 5th Place

Boys Swim & Dive Congratulations!

— — —
vs. Lawrence, Leavenworth, SM South | 2nd Place

100 Yard Butterfly | Dawson Bonnell – 1st Place, Jacob Heinz – 3rd Place

100 Yard Free | Alexander Moore – 4th Place

500 Yard Free | Sina Khosh – 3rd Place, Jacob Heinz – 4th Place

200 Yard Free Relay | Max Bates, Jamie King, Sina Khosh, Jackson Waggoner – 3rd Place

100 Yard Backstroke | Alexander Moore – 2nd Place, Max Bates – 3rd Place

100 Yard Breaststroke | Ari Mattes – 4th Place, Asher Zelry – 5th Place

400 Yard Free Relay | Dawson Bonnell, Jacob Heinz, Sina Khosh, Alexander Moore – 3rd Place

Boys Wrestling Congratulations!

— — —

Lawrence Free State 45 – Holton 21

106 | Grayson Hagen – Win by Forfeit

120 | Nolan Bradley – 9-4 Win!

126 | D'onte Goodman – 13-5 Win!

138 | Eric Streeter – 15-0 Win!

152 | Ben Mellenbruch – 3-1 Win!

170 | Zach Shepley – Win by Forfeit

182 | Gavin Blanchard – Win by Pin!

195 | Matthew Marcum – Win by Forfeit

285 | Tai Newhouse – Win by Pin!

Boys Wrestling Congratulations!

— — —

Lawrence Free State 47 – Olathe East 24

106 | Grayson Hagen – 7-3 Win!

113 | Nolan Bradley – Win by Pin!

120 | Drew Streeter – Win by Forfeit

126 | D'onte Goodman – Win by Pin!

138 | Eric Streeter – 7-2 Win!

145 | Trey Shanks – 12-2 Win!

182 | Zach Shepley – Win by Pin!

195 | Gavin Blanchard – Win by Forfeit

220 | Matthew Marcum – 3-1 Win!

Boys Wrestling Congratulations!

2021 Leavenworth Challenger | 2nd Place

106 | Grayson Hagen - 3rd Place

106 | Drew Streeter - 4th Place

113 | Nolan Bradley - Runner-Up!

120 | Wyatt Sutton - 6th Place

126 | D'onte Goodman - 5th Place

132 | Ezra Birdashaw - 5th Place

138 | Eric Streeter - Runner-Up!

145 | Trey Shanks - 4th Place

152 | Ben Mellenbruch - 5th Place

160 | Gabe Swoyer - 9th Place

170 | Zach Shepley - Runner-Up!

182 | Gavin Blanchard - 7th Place

182 | Quez Lee - 8th Place

195 | Matthew Marcum - CHAMPION!

220 | Brian Lane - 3rd Place

285 | Preston Tran - 5th Place

The Inaugural Girls Wrestling Program in Lawrence!



Girls Wrestling Congratulations!

— — —

vs. Gardner-Edgerton

132 | Ryan Turk - 1-1

138 | Madyson Gray - 1-0

143 | Daijah Preston - 1-1

vs. SM West

138 | Madyson Gray - 1-0

Girls Wrestling Congratulations!

2021 Leavenworth Challenger

132 | Ryan Turk - 6th Place

138 | Madyson Gray - CHAMPION!

143 | Daijah Preston - 7th Place



Free State Firebirds in Action!



NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

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The Free State Orchestra members listed below have been selected to perform in the **Northeast Kansas Music Educators Association (NEKMEA) District Honor High School Orchestra!** These students have been working on professional level musical excerpts since May 2021 preparing for the audition that took place in November. Students will be performing with the District Orchestra on Saturday, December 04th at Washburn Rural High School in Topeka. Performing with the District Orchestra also qualifies all 23 of these students to audition for the Kansas All-State Orchestra in January. Expect to see an announcement in mid January with the names of the students selected for the Kansas All-State Orchestra. Free State High School Orchestra program is directed by Judy Erpelding and Russell Clark.

NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

— — —

- 23 students auditioned from the Free State Orchestra program - ALL 23 were selected! This has NEVER happened before.
- Out of 5 sections in the Orchestra, Free State has Section Leaders in 4, including the Principal 1st Violinist, AKA Concert Master. In the 5th section, Free State has the Assistant Section Leader.
- Free State had MORE STUDENTS SELECTED for the orchestra **THAN ANY OTHER SCHOOL** in Northeast Kansas!
- This year we had 5 Freshman, 2 Sophomores, 9 Juniors, and 7 Seniors selected - talent in all classes!
- Out of 14 Cellists selected for the Orchestra, Free State had 8 - more than half of the section from Free State.

NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

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Sophomore Aidan Ayala | Concert Master, Principal Violin I – 1st Chair

Junior Sofia Lefort | Violin I – 3rd Chair

Junior Casey Kong | Violin I – 4th Chair

Freshman Julie Kong | Violin I – 6th Chair

Senior Nathan Ma | Violin I – 7th Chair

Junior Wendo Kimori | Violin I – 10th Chair

Senior Arwen O'Brien | Principal Violin II – 1st Chair

Freshman Marlana Zuo | Assistant Principal Violin II – 2nd Chair

Freshman Angela Chen | Violin II – 5th Chair

Junior Felix Janzen Chappell | Violin II – 7th Chair

Junior Terry Mechem | Principal Viola – 1st Chair

Junior Nathaniel Slemmer | Viola – 4th Chair

NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

— — —

Senior AJ Baker | Viola – 11th Chair

Senior Makayla Atherton | Principal Cello – 1st Chair

Junior Jake Chun | Assistant Principal Cello – 2nd Chair

Senior Maggie Li | Cello – 4th Chair

Junior Morgan Kimuri | Cello – 5th Chair

Junior Mei Gordon-Washington | Cello – 7th Chair

Senior Lauren Hulshof | Cello – 10th Chair

Freshman Lily Ye | Cello – 12th Chair

Freshman Andrei Lefort | Cello – 14th Chair

Senior Elijah Ditto | Assistant Principal Bass – 2nd Chair

Senior Evelyn Gurske | Bass – 4th Chair

NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

High Strings
Violins and Violas



NEKMEA District Honor High School Orchestra!

Low Strings
Cellos and Basses



2021 NEKMEA Outstanding Young Choir Teacher of the Year!

— — —

**CONGRATULATIONS to Free State Choir Teacher Olivia Henning -
the 2021 NEKMEA Outstanding Young Choir Teacher of the Year!**

In order to be considered for this award, the recipients must have met the following qualifications:

- Must have been in teaching for at least two years, no more than nine years.
- Must be a member of KMEA.
- Their school's music program must have shown improvement and/or consistency over the years.

Free State Key Club's Festival of Trees Entry!

“A Very Firebird Christmas!”

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Don't Miss This!



Sources of Strength | Mental Health Monday

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Free State's *Sources of Strength* is excited to announce its launching of "Mental Health Monday!" Students interested in learning how to manage anxiety, stress, and winter doldrums can sign-up through the QR code.

Students - please sign-up first, grab your lunch, and join the group in Room 232.



What's Happening this Week!



Birthday Wishes!



Shelby Frazier | December 12th

Ted Juneau | December 12th

Wednesday, December 08th

— — —

S.A.L.T. of the Firebirds Meeting
7am, Auditorium

Varsity Girls Wrestling vs. Blue Valley
5pm, Lawrence

Winter Choral Concert
7pm, Auditorium

Thursday, December 09th

— — —

Free State Theatre Improv Night
7pm, Black Box

Friday, December 10th

— — —

Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Notre Dame de Sion
7pm

Saturday, December 11th

— — —

Varsity Boys Diving at Olathe Invitational
10am, California Trail MS

Varsity Boys Swimming at Olathe Invitational
10am, Summit Trail MS

Varsity Boys Wrestling at Manhattan Double Dual
10am, Manhattan

Varsity Girls Basketball vs. TBA
2pm, De Soto

2021 Winter Formal Dance
8pm, KU Union

Upcoming Next Week!



Tuesday, December 14th

— — —

Varsity Girls Basketball

5:30pm, Mill Valley

Varsity Boys Basketball

7pm, Mill Valley

Winter Band Concert

7pm, Auditorium

Wednesday, December 15th

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Varsity Boys Swim & Dive vs. Lawrence, Olathe West, SM North
3:30pm, SM Aquatic Center

Thursday, December 16th

— — —

Varsity Girls Wrestling vs. Garden City, Washburn Rural

5:30pm, Lawrence

Winter Orchestra Concert

6:30pm, Auditorium

Friday, December 17th

— — —

Varsity Boys Wrestling at the Johnson County Classic
2:30pm, Blue Valley

Varsity Girls Basketball vs. SM Northwest
5:30pm

Varsity Boys Basketball vs. SM Northwest
7pm

Saturday, December 18th

— — —

Varsity Boys Wrestling at the Johnson County Classic
9am, Blue Valley

Varsity Girls Wrestling at the 2021 Ladycat Classic
9am, Basehor-Linwood

StuCo Movie Night

First Semester Final Exam Schedule



First Semester Final Exam Schedule

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Monday, December 20th

1 A/B | 8-8:54am

2 A/B | 9-9:54am

3 A/B | 10-10:54am

4 A/B | 11-11:54am

No Lunch

Tuesday, December 21st

5 A/B | 8-8:54am

6 A/B | 9-9:54am

7 A/B | 10-10:54am

8 A/B | 11-11:54am

No Lunch

Let's Go State!

